

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-4 and 8-17, 20, 22, 24, and 25 are all the claims pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 18, 19, 21, and 23 have been canceled.

Claims 3, 4, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 17 are independent claims.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 10, 14, 15, 17, 20, 22 and 24 are allowed.

Claims 8, 18, 19, 21 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant has added the recitations of allowable dependent claims 18, 19, 21, and 23 to rejected independent claims 3, 4, 12, and 16, respectively.

*Therefore, each of the pending independent claims 3, 4, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 17 include allowable subject matter.*

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and immediate allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
Application No.: 10/623,771

Attorney Docket No.: Q76636

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/John M. Bird/

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